



NEWS RELEASE

Matthew D. Orwig
United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: April 27, 2006

Contact: Davilyn Brackin
Public Information Officer
(409) 839-2538 office
(409) 553-9881 cell

PLANO MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

(Plano, TX) United States Attorney Matthew D. Orwig announced today that a 41-year-old Plano, Texas man has pleaded guilty to possession of visual depictions of minors involved in sexually explicit conduct in the Eastern District of Texas. **DAVID FLEMING** entered his guilty plea today before United States Magistrate Judge Don D. Bush.

U.S. Attorney Orwig was pleased with the plea, "The sexual exploitation of children through child pornography robs our children of their dignity and their innocence. These crimes will not be tolerated in the Eastern District of Texas."

A federal grand jury previously returned a one-count indictment on March 8, 2006, charging Fleming with using a computer to obtain and possess child pornography. According to information presented in court, Fleming posted numerous images of child pornography to a Yahoo group. As a result of these postings several Cybertips were made to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). NCMEC acts as the 911 of the internet regarding claims of child pornography. Fleming admitted to possessing between 300 and 600 visual depictions of children involved in sexually explicit conduct, which he obtained over the internet. Many of these images contain victims who have been previously identified by NCMEC.

This investigation is part of the Department of Justice's "Innocent Images" national initiative to protect children from computer exploitation. Fleming faces up to ten years in federal prison, a \$250,000 fine, and a term of lifetime supervision. The case has not yet been set for sentencing. Fleming remains in federal custody.

This case was investigated by the United States Secret Service, Dallas Police Department, Plano Police Department, Fannin County Sheriff's Office and the Texas Rangers. The collaboration of these law enforcement officials has resulted in an additional indictment against Fleming in Fannin County for sexual assault of a minor. Assistant U.S. Attorney Michele A. Ratcliffe is prosecuting this case.

###